

## **SPA's Fall 2020 Art's First Challenges: ROCK ART**

When you're on a hike with your family and friends, be sure to collect some special stones, of various colors, textures and sizes. These will be a source of materials to get you started on some of the fun activities listed below.

Our Art's First instructor, Tina Logan, has organized a series of Art's First Challenges for young artists to do from home. Our Art's First challenges make connections with Fall 2020 exhibit at SPA, "Rock Solid" in our main floor gallery.

We invite you to imagine and create! You are welcome to participate in the Art's First Challenges in whatever order you wish and with the timing that best fits into your family's plans. Please let us know if you don't have all of the items that are needed to work on an Art's First Challenge; we often have spare materials and we would be glad to share! (Just call us at 479-7069 or email us at [info@studioplacarts.com](mailto:info@studioplacarts.com)).

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### **Art's First Rock Challenge #1 Pebble Mosaics**



Take your little one on a hunt for all kinds of pebbles. Collect them up and have fun sorting and categorizing them. When you are ready, make a pancake out of air dry clay or real clay and press your pebbles in to make a mosaic design. Then you can look up and read about mosaics throughout history!

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## Art's First Rock Challenge #2 Chalking on Rocks



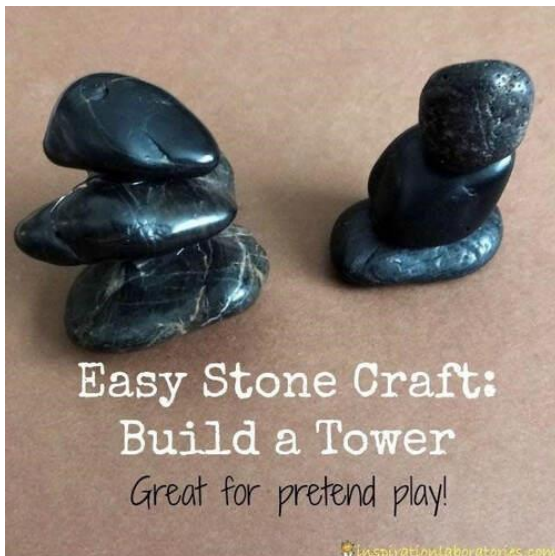
Have fun gathering up all kinds of different rocks and pebbles and draw little faces or designs on them.

This is a great opportunity to explore different textures of rocks, noticing their color variations and using your imagination to see something in a rock and then bring it out with color and line.

When finished put them back outside for people to come across as a happy surprise.

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## Art's First Rock Challenge #3 Mini Rock Towers



Create mini towers out of stone and build a city or town with them.

You could glue the towers together with tacky glue to make them permanent or you could pretend Godzilla is coming through and let them tumble down.

You should use stones that are an appropriate size for your kiddo. Bigger stones for little ones and smaller for older kids.

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## Art's First Rock Challenge #4 Rock Studies



Collect and gather different kinds of rocks and look at them closely with a magnifying glass. Notice the little details.

Now have fun drawing what you see and try using different mediums like, pencil, pastels and watercolors.

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## Art's First Rock Challenge #5 Story Stones

### Story Stones



Gather up a bunch of stones and paint a picture on each one. You can use these stones for storytelling, imaginary play and make up games with them.

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## Art's First Rock Challenge #6 Pictograph Paintings



Read a story or look at books about ancient cave paintings and try to figure out what stories were being told on the cave walls based on the pictures.

Take a scrap piece of wood or brown paper and use black crayon, charcoal or paint to tell your own story in pictographs.

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## Art's First Rock Challenge #7 Texture Stones



Go on a scavenger hunt inside or outside to find objects that have interesting textures.

Take a piece of real clay or self-hardening clay and smooch it into a pancake then have fun pressing the objects into the clay to create a special texture stone.

These could become ornaments or grounding stones.

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## Art's First Rock Challenge #8 Prehistoric Cave Painting



Have fun making your mark on brown paper bags with watered down paint in spray bottles. Place your hand or any pre-cut stencils of animals or symbols on the paper and spray away. Watch colors mix and create an interesting picture by overlapping and layering your images.

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## Art's First Rock Challenge #9 Pet Rocks



Select a rock that speaks to you and have fun painting it then decorating it.

Add some googly eyes and give it a name. It is now your pet.

Decorate a small box inside and out to create a home for your pet.

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## Art's First Rock Challenge #10 Stone Collage



Create a scene, animal or creature by gluing stones on a scrap piece of foam core or cardboard.

Use markers, or paint to decorate it with patterns and lines. Make a series or scene that tells a story.

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## Art's First Rock Challenge #11 Rock Cairns and Inuksuks



A cairn is a human-made pile (or stack) of stones. It is a Scottish word and Cairns are traditionally used as markers along a trail.

Inuksuks are rock structures that are found in the Arctic regions of Canada, Alaska and Greenland. They are often in the shape of a human figures and are used for navigation, as a travel marker for fishing places, camps and or hunting grounds. They can vary in size and play an important role in Inuit culture.

This activity can be done out doors or inside. You can glue your structures together for a more permanent piece of art or make it temporary and just enjoy the process of building and balancing.

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## **Our Summertime Activities have been curated by Tina Logan**

*Tina Logan is an educator and artist who received her BFA in art education in 1987 from Syracuse University, and has been teaching ever since. She currently teaches at Albert D. Lawton Intermediate School in Essex Junction Vt. but also has 20 years of experience teaching elementary aged artists as well. Tina has served as past president and secretary for Vermont Art Teachers Association and participates on many boards and committees that promote the arts and help bring the arts into the community. As an artist, she draws inspiration from her family, students, garden and community.*

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**For more info about SPA programming, visit: [www.studioplacearts.com](http://www.studioplacearts.com)**